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# The O. A. C. Review.

The Dignity of a Calling is Its Utility

VOL. VI.

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH, APRIL, 1895.

No. 7

## EDITORIAL.

**I**N this issue we are glad to be able to present our readers with a letter on the Experimental Union by its energetic Secretary. We all know Mr. Holterman to be an untiring worker for the Union and also for other societies organized for the benefit of the farmer. In the letter the condition of affairs is laid before us very plainly, in regard to the increasing lack of interest in the meetings by ex-students. This may be due to "a lack of pride in the work," but we think not. They merely stay at home and take a pride in the work and like other intelligent farmers benefit by it.

In reading over this letter we could not help putting what we consider facts together and from them trying to deduce a reason why this lack of interest. During the past few years the experimental work has made great strides while the interest of ex-students has decreased. There seems to be no connection here, and so on this ground there is no particular reason why one should attend. But as the part taken in our meetings by outsiders has become more and more the part taken by members has become less and less and consequently they take less interest in the meetings. On the question of being more exclusive we see no objection to it. Do not those who are eligible to become members represent all parts of Ontario, and are they not best able to act as representatives in an organization like this? A full report of the work and results is distributed thus giving the people full liberty to criticize them, and the only reason it is so seldom done is because very little fault can be found with the management. Aside from all this could we not safely leave it to the people's representative, the Hon. John Daydon, to see that they are not defrauded? Are the outsiders who come fair representatives of the people as a rule? We think not.

This is a subject of great importance and we feel is worthy of more time than fifteen minutes. To our correspondents we would say take a little more time. As a model we prefer that you take Tennyson. He wrote the first draft of "Lockley Hall" in a few hours, but he spent six weeks of eight hours a day at rewriting and improving it.

The vexed question which agitated the minds of the people of the country and which we hoped had long ago been settled, has been revived by a writer in one of our agricultural journals. In the article referred to the author deals with the subject in the old way, just as lecturers and writers have dealt with it time and time again.

Yet, notwithstanding the array of arguments brought forward, and the expostulations of friends to the contrary, the boy still continues to leave the farm. To be sure, discontent with the quiet and unexciting country life forces many a boy to turn his eye cityward in search of Utopia, but by far the greater number are forced to leave the farm not because they are anxious to fill a larger sphere, not because they expect to grow richer at some other trade or business, but because they must engage in some employment which requires less capital with which to start. Many a one who leaves the farm would gladly remain upon it until he is old enough to take upon himself the responsibilities of a farmer, but he is not slow to see that little progress is being made and that it is idle for him to entertain hopes of ever being settled upon unincumbered property. He sees, too, that it is a thankless task to become the slave of a mortgagee and therefore he wisely decides to spend what ever capital he may possess in getting an education or in fitting himself for some other business.

Until a business man or a mechanic gains a most intimate and modern acquaintance with his business it is needless for him to expect to attain the highest success. Yet, we find the farmer, who, of all men, should have a most intimate acquaintance with the in's and out's of his business, plodding along in the paths of his fathers, content with a mediocrity of success. The fact is, he is only beginning to realize the importance of an education, but as yet he does not make strenuous efforts to obtain one, nor does he endeavor to put his sons in a position to obtain a strictly agricultural training. So long as this state of affairs will continue, farming will remain unprofitable and the boy will have to leave the farm. But as soon as farming is made more business-like so soon will it become profitable and the boy will remain on the farm. Now, there is little use in looking to this institution as the sole source of education; as well might Law depend upon Osgode Hall, or Medicine, on the many Medical Schools of Ontario. The boy must have some ground work in agriculture upon which he is to build if he would make his course here a success. Agriculture must be taught in the Public Schools and the boy's mind early trained to look upon natural phenomena with some degree of familiarity in order that when he goes to college he may be able to grasp the full meaning of the subjects taught. Every boy cannot avail himself of a college training yet every boy likes to have some certificate of educational standing. The standard of matriculation to the O. A. C. should be raised. Let it become the Public School Leaving Examination, with agriculture, elementary Botany and Chemistry, then observe with what pride the father will inform you that John has just matriculated to the Ontario Agricultural College.

## Financial Depression.



THAT the world is passing through a serious period in her financial history is acknowledged by the majority of those who have compared notes of past and present. There have, however, been times much worse than the present to the human family. If we glance away back to old Testament times we notice the conspicuous part Joseph played in the history of Egypt, when he supplied his brothers with sacks of corn to relieve their starving condition. Again in the time of Ahab when the ground became so parched nothing would grow. These were circumstances over which man, apparently, had no control. To come down to the present century in search of "hard times" the name of John Bullfinch, G. M. Leman occurs to us as having played a conspicuous part in quelling the "Bread Riots" in England in 1828, known as the "dear year." Again the condition of trade just after the Russian War is not entirely forgotten when almost everything that sold for money went down with a crash.

The present time is what more directly concerns ourselves. For several years previous to this what is termed "Financial Depression" there was comparative prosperity to those who exerted an intelligent effort in the line of production, consequently almost every branch of industry, agriculture not excepted, was unduly developed, thus creating a supply exceeding the demand, which illustrates one of the first laws laid down by the "Great Architect" that of "cause and effect." We will consider this as it affects our own country.

No one can deny we have had a succession of poor crops accompanied by low prices, which has had a marked effect upon the general business of the country while unavoidable expenses have not been reduced to anything like a corresponding degree, and in many cases not in the least. A great many things are blamed for this. Our Governments come in for a share of abuse, too many over-paid officials, tariff not just right, those in power filling their pockets regardless of the country's interests, yes, and as many more ridiculous assertions are made by persons who ought to know better. Are our Governments to blame? Surely they are not so influential as to effect the whole world, for we are as well off as better than any other country in the world. Our Governments are simply the voice of the people which to cast a reflection upon, pays ourselves and brothers no great compliment. Perhaps the extravagance of the people receives as much censure as any other one cause of hard times, but to take a broad view of the matter causes us to look beyond this, although possibly it is somewhat to blame. There is no doubt but that prosperity led people into extravagant habits. We hear our mothers tell of the old tallow candle, one of which used at a time served to light all in the room, two burning at a time was not allowed by the frugal house-wife. Compare such an economical practice, if you will, with the multitude of lamps now considered necessary in even the pinched farmer's house, or the more modern incandescent electric wire or the still more modern Auer burner, which bids fair to rival the electric illuminator in the city residences. Surely here is an evidence of a desire to satisfy a want rather than a need. Our tables too now bear luxuries not thought of half a century ago in the majority of Canadian homes. Better furniture, better clothes, better conveyances, etc., have all come to be con-

sidered necessities. Now this does not rest with individuals, but the masses are being carried with the current unconsciously until we feel it is our right to have these things, and in our selfishness we are not willing to retrench as our circumstances tell us we should. All this increased expense while our incomes have gradually decreased.

Another powerful auxiliary to the present low ebb has been that of framing ones business during prosperity from the stand-point of always having as good or better times. As an illustration a farmer with sons has an opportunity to buy a farm in such a location as to be more valuable to him than anyone else. He buys it at a fair price, calculating if the times continue favorable he will have no difficulty in meeting his payments as they fall due. Times change, everything goes down but the mortgage on his farm and the interest on the same, consequently he finds it impossible to meet his obligations, then the home becomes involved and he finally loses all. Again, a family lives in a log house till it nearly tumbles down, when a new one is built spacious and beautiful, having their calculations upon the same ground as the farmer, and likewise falls a prey to that awful demon—uncontrollable debt. Many business men should they relate their experience would tell a like tale. Each of these cases can be numbered by the hundreds in this grandly productive country. We can hardly say that any one is to blame, as each referred to is the victim of circumstances over which he had no control. When individuals suffer, communities suffer, when communities suffer, the nation suffers, hence our condition which happily we feel is improving every day.

We will attempt to outline a remedy. Are we the noble Canadians we consider ourselves going to fold our arms in despair? Surely there is no fear of that, but let each one take in his own situation, honestly and squarely, and not whine over what was or what should have been, but consider the present circumstances, face them bravely, manfully, in a way the world will be benefitted by our example. Cut down expenses, by exercising not a little, but a good deal of self denial. Instead of entertaining friends lavishly with money, let the lavish one sit in rigid hearty welcome, a thousand times more acceptable, rise above criticism as those who criticize most severely are invariably the last to come to the rescue. Let us conduct our business understandingly and intelligently and we will rise above our present financial difficulties like "gold purified in the fire," a nobler, purer and a better people.

J. B. S., B. S. A., '94.

## Success on the Farm.

IN this critical period of "hard times" for the farmer this question of "How may I be successful?" is, indeed, one which asserts itself with a more striking desire for solution than ever before. This may be true in respect to any other business, but more so, I think, in respect to farming. Not many years ago when he could get over a dollar a bushel for his wheat, when he had an open market for cattle and horses, when his land was fresh and fertile, and his competitors few, the farmer of this country did not pay much attention to this; his success was a foregone conclusion. But now-a-days his success is dependent upon his complete

knowledge of his trade which shall fit him for shrewder and closer business competitions.

In the first place, therefore, the farmer should be educated. There are too many men who content themselves with hard, slavish work from day in to day but, and do not stop to think. They do not believe in giving it a special study, and yet they are continually grumbling that "farming doesn't pay." Let them seek enlightenment. Other professions have risen to a high standard, and anyone who would succeed in them would first need to get a sound education in which he has made a special study of the profession. So should it be with agriculture, and it stands as good a chance for coming to the front, and in fact a better, as it is the greatest interest of our country.

Therefore let the farmer increase his store of knowledge. No farmer should be without one or two good Agricultural Journals. He should attend Farmers' Institutes where he can carry on discussions with his neighbors, and learn how other people farm to make money. Then again our colleges and schools should be appreciated. Let him send his sons to any of these, if he wishes them to rise and do honor to his profession. Then by taking advantage of these things he will find that farming will not only pay in the immediate sense of the word, but it will pay in the "long run," and also help him to be a better man and a better citizen.

A prominent merchant recently said that one of the tendencies of the present "hard times" would be to teach us economy. Giving close attention to little things has a wonderful effect in helping our capital to grow. The expenditure of every dollar should have careful forethought; and spending a dollar elsewhere, so that it will come back with a partner in its arms, will make an important difference at the year's end in the farm returns. But besides all others, let us give attention to the most important sections of farm work. Be wise as to the caring of machinery, keeping of farm accounts, and many other things in which there is still many a lesson to learn as regards economy.

The thoughtful and economical farmer will not leave his farm implements lying about the fields where last used, but he will consider it economy to build a shed for these, and follow the capital advice to "have a place for everything, and everything in its place."

A great mistake that many farmers make is to try to cultivate more land than they can easily manage. It has been demonstrated time and again that more money can be made from 100 acres of land properly managed, than from 500 acres cultivated in such a manner as is usual with such an extent. In managing such a large acreage it is impossible to get all the crops in at the proper time, and those left to be put in last rarely ripen in harvest-time proper, and the profit from them is small. It would therefore be wise to cultivate but a few acres and do them thoroughly.

In order to cheapen production it is very necessary to have good drainage. By aid of it the farmer can get an earlier harvest which is a great advantage. A greater variety of crops may be grown, tillage is rendered much easier, the application of manure is more effective, and in many other ways is there a direct advantage.

The question of tillage would perhaps be next in order. A large measure of success depends upon the autumn and spring cultivation. It should all be done thoroughly. By giving attention to the princi-

ples of rotation maximum results may be obtained from minimum outlays, and this should be the object of every farmer.

Again referring to the complaint that "farming doesn't pay." I think that in respect to such a case a man has a right to know the reason why. At any rate if it is paying, as is more likely to be the case, the keeping of systematic accounts alone will enable a man to know how well it is paying. It would seem absurd for a merchant to attempt to run his business without keeping a strict account of every transaction; and so should it be with the farmer. He cannot know what he is earning off the farm unless he keeps accounts. If he knows anything about book-keeping the matter of keeping accounts is a very simple one; and I am sure that to those farmers who have never kept accounts their first year's attempt at it would not fail to prove a source of satisfaction, and a stimulus to do better the coming year.

In conclusion I would say that to make farming pay as far as dollars and cents are concerned, there are many other little things which must be given attention, such as regularity, tidiness and order about the place, and many other things which the thoughtful farmer will not fail to learn as his experience grows. The farmer who is truly successful is a blessing to his neighborhood; and if asked for the secret of his success, he would be certain to tell you along with many other things, that long before his success was achieved he had resolved in his mind that his profession was a good one.

-L. H. CASS.

## Y. M. C. A.

LOOKING out on the world at this season of the year, we fancy we can hear the voice of nature lifted up in praise to Him, "who holds the keys in his hand, and shutteth and no man openeth, and openeth and no man shutteth. For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of the birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land." Cant. 2:11-12.

This brings us to the end of our Y. M. C. A. year, and we must look about for men to appoint over the work of the Master in our association.

The retiring officers of the Y. M. C. A. straightened up their accounts and made a formal report on Thursday night March 28th, when the annual election of officers took place, as follows:—President, James Atkinson; Vice-Pres., J. Nasmith; Cor.-Sec., J. A. Cunningham; Sec., J. J. Yuill; Treas., A. Kennedy; Chairman of Missionary Committee, P. Hodgetts; Auditor, R. Harcourt.

We trust the work of the association may prosper in the hands of the new Executive Committee.

"Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when he cometh shall find so doing." Matt. 24:45.

Sunday April the 7th we were favored with a visit from the Travelling Secretary, Mr. Thos. S. Cole, when we held three services in the Association Hall. One at 7 a. m. of an evangelic nature, and at 2:30, when Mr. Cole gave us a short history of the Young Men Christian Association movement, how it originated, and the nature of its work. Again at 7 p. m. a Bible reading, "What men are saved from." Matt. 1:21. We are always glad to have Mr. Cole with us. We feel he does us good.

A. H. C.

# THE O. A. C. REVIEW

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APRIL, 1895.

### Editor O. A. C. Review.

DEAR SIR,—I always read the O. A. C. Review with pleasure and I have noticed the communication of G. F. Marsh, B. S. A., and that of J. G. Ross and your own editorial.

In pointing out the object of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union we should not lose sight of the fact that we are now getting an annual grant from the Ontario Government of \$970 and that this money is the public money. The word Experimental is embodied in the name of the organization, and as one who was at the College when it was organized, and having been at almost every Union meeting since, I may be permitted to say the Experimental work was intended to be one of the strongest features of the organization.

Knowing my friend, Mr. Marsh, I also know that he often advances ideas not because he holds them but because he wants to see what others have to say upon them. In that spirit I undertake to answer his letter. He wants to know what advantage membership gives,—others can go to the meetings, others can read the reports, and providing the funds are sufficient other competent men can take part in the experiments.

In this respect we stand upon the same footing with many other societies, and there would be a great reduction of memberships, and even societies, should we join only when and where would be a dollars and cents return as some argue there should be for those joining. But are our advantages nothing? Is it nothing to have a voice in the management of an organization which leads the world in its system of co-operative experiments,—a work of inestimable value and inestimable scope. One which if it continues to expand within the next 15 years as it has during the past 15, will require the services of its own experimentalist. I may here tell those who are eligible for membership that not once but often those not eligible for membership have pressed the 50 cent fee upon me for membership, and how they

were disappointed, that they could not become members and share in the work which they recognized of such value. And when men who were willing to be members could join and I saw how indifferent those eligible were my own disappointment was great. I may even go a little further and say that some pressure has been brought to bear to compel the Union to open its membership to any, and yet so many appear to think the privilege is not worth having. We dare not and I think we do not wish to do anything to become more exclusive. As far as the Union meetings are concerned, the papers and discussions stand upon a very high plane, from year to year the Experimental Reports must take up more and more time; facts are brought out here all of which unfortunately can never practically be put upon paper, and those in attendance will derive the greatest benefits. I have tried every means to bring out not ex-students alone but farmers from all parts of the Province, and in this effort I know I have had the warm co-operation of not only Mr. Marsh but every one who has taken an active part in the success of the organization. We receive a grant and we must expend it to the best advantage, and in so doing we reflect the highest credit upon the Union, the students, ex-students and College staff collectively.

When we come to the social part, there would be no one who would try to attend more regularly on that score, but I feel that whatever is done in this direction must not interfere with the other features of the meeting. If any one can give us such a solution and one which will be carried out I for one shall be grateful.

And now, in closing, I come to the least pleasant part of the discussion,—the lack of interest taken by ex-students. This lack of interest has increased rather than decreased. Besides circulars sent out by me and the district secretaries. I have sent notices to the Globe, Mail, Empire, Farmers Advocate, Stock Journal, Horticulturist, Canadian Bee Journal, and the O. A. C. Review. We owe much to these papers, and if no circulars had been sent out we must admit that the ex-student who does not take one or more of these papers better not come to the Union to throw light upon agricultural subjects. Last year owing to the fact that the Review is published in the middle of the month and the Union being held about the middle, thus requiring particulars of the meeting six weeks before the meeting my letter appeared too late to be of any use, but all at the College were notified, and all the other papers published a notice. I think the difficulty is not through lack of notice. After making all allowance for young men who during the first years have to struggle with financial difficulties, I have come to the painful conclusion that the difficulty lies in a lack of interest,—a lack of pride in the work. May I put it a little stronger, a lack of realization of the responsibilities which rest upon those who have reaped great advantages. I can point out young men who are financially well situated who are not far distant from Guelph who do not attend. I have written to such young men for addresses to be delivered at the annual meeting and they have *never answered*. We must get out of that spirit; we must realize that at the College we have had great advantages and we should do something to advance agriculture. There are many noble exceptions. Were it not so the Union would not stand in the proud position it does to-day. Officers attend meetings, paying their own expenses when they would be justified in following the example of

others by taking their expenses out of the Government grant.

As far as the "intercourse between officers and students past and present," and the like is concerned, this object was to be carried out in so far as it could be done in the agricultural discussions and experimental work. From the first, outside wisdom and co-operation to a certain extent was sought, and my opinion is it is in the best interests of the Ontario Agricultural College to give vent to our sentiment not in private caucus, not in pleasant table gatherings, but in showing a work which shall be of intensely practical value to the Province. I am extremely busy and have had to write this communication in a fifteen minutes. I hope others will take the question in hand.

Very truly yours,

R. F. HOLTMAN, '80.

P. S.—This one thought I would like to add. To increase the interest and loyalty to the College and Experimental Union I believe it would be well to harp very lightly on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year string and let sentiment unite upon the Ontario Agricultural College. I know the rivalry between the different years is largely a jest, perhaps entirely so, but unconsciously I think it gives less play to the feeling towards our Alma Mater, and to that extent has some influence on the re-union meetings in later years.

R. F. H.

Brantford, March 28th, 1895.

## Locals.

Student—Did you see Campbell driving around town with a fancy turn out?

Second Student—Oh, yes; he was advertising for some new patent medicine company.

Evidently a new rule has found its way into the already overflowing list. Would you like to become acquainted with it that you may take warning? If so, we hasten to inform you. No student, third year not exempt, is allowed to speak to a lady who is likely to become a resident of the College any time within the next ten years. Ask Christian about it.

A new subject has crept into the list of subjects lately of which we very highly approve. It is the subject of Road-Making, upon which a civil engineer, Mr. Campbell, of St. Thomas, has given a few lectures and will continue the subject in the near future. It appears that the influence of the Good Roads Association has been brought to bear upon the Minister and has resulted in the above.

Mr. Campbell has given a great deal of attention to the question and has already made a good impression on the students.

The evening of April 1st seems to have been noted for the number of parties which took place. Many of the students were invited out for the evening and were in great glee over it, but found on reaching the city that it was all the result of approaching spring.

Solemn faces were noticeable next day, among which was the usual smiling face of Chadsey, which was unusually solemn. "Words

seemed buried in his sorrow's grave," and it is only recently that he has recovered from the severe shock to his nervous system.

Morgan says he had an unusually pleasant time, and others "spent the time of their life."

We predict a decided increase in revenue from the Post Office department next fiscal year.

The work in connection with the remodelling of the buildings in connection with the dairy building is to commence at an early date. We understand that the object is to arrange them chiefly for experimental purposes for cattle, sheep and swine.

A great deal of work is involved in experimenting with live stock and every possible convenience for assisting in accuracy should be considered.

Prof. Day has the plan in hand and it is to be arranged with this object in view.

We think the change is a good one and see no reason why experiments along these lines should not be carried on here to a greater extent than they have been in the past.

Some things we would like to know:

What attraction Paterson has at the depot at certain intervals.

If Allison has an uncle in the city.

If Farrer's opinion regarding the breeds of sheep carries much weight.

If more practical work cannot be given, as the 2nd year one gets its six days in the week and four ours in the day.

If the hour given to Bee-Keeping is not wasted.

If it matters much whether a cockerel's tail is lacking the tenth of an inch in width.

Why certain students persist in tramping the lawn before it is solid enough to play on.

Since the last issue of our paper, the students have had the privilege of reaping the benefits to be derived from a practical dairy course. It is scarcely necessary to say that the College students as a whole take less interest in the work than the regular dairy students. Several reasons can be assigned for this. We think that the chief of them is that their minds are on other subjects upon which they have to face an examination in the near future. They naturally cannot centre their attention wholly upon the work, and we think that the suggestion of changing the time for this instruction, contained in an editorial of last month, is a good one, and would lead to more satisfactory results.

But apart altogether from the above, we question the benefits claimed for the course. Surely dairying must be a very narrow subject if we are expected to know it after two weeks of instruction. It is absurd to think that we can make cheese after three days of practice or derive any profit or pleasure from watching a separator run without a knowledge of the mechanism of it. On the whole, we think the two weeks' work ill spent and would recommend a discontinuation or modification of the system.

## Personal.

"What hast thou wrought for Right and Truth,  
For God and Man,  
From the golden hours of bright-eyed youth  
To Life's mid span?"

-Whittier.

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W. W. Ballantyne, '81, has been elected President of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association.

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Many O. A. C. ex-students were delegates at the Farmers' Institutes during this winter.

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C. A. W. Hamilton, '94, is at Richmond, Virginia, engaged in cheese manufacture.

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R. Spencer Wood who has spent the winter in England expects to return to Canada this spring.

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J. A. S. Burns, '92, has been studying chemistry at Leipzig University under that famous professor of physical chemistry, Prof. Ostwald, and contemplates continuing his studies in agricultural chemistry with Professor Stokmann.

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Fred Dean, '93, has been working on his father's farm since leaving college and attended the dairy school this year to perfect his knowledge in that important branch. He is actively engaged in Sunday school work being Secretary of the Brant Sabbath School Association.

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Many of this year's students will remember George Lewis of last year. We hear that he is going into the breeding of Lincoln sheep. Already he has some which are registered in the Michigan Herd Book and are eligible for registration here. We unite in wishing him a full measure of success.

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We notice in the Toronto "Globe" that T. G. Raynor, B. S. A., '89, of Roschall, Prince Edward County, is the new president of the Central Farmers' Institute. It is gratifying to see one of our number holding such a prominent and useful position. D. McCrae, of Guelph is elected Vice-President of the organization and many other leading names are on the executive list.

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A. R. Yuill, '92, is successfully following up the dairy industry on his father's farm at Carlton Place near Ottawa. That his herd, consisting of Ayrshires, are of the right sort is evidenced by the success he achieved at the various stock shows. At the World's Fair he

obtained four prizes including one first for a bull calf. Mr. Yuill lectured during the winter at the Farmer's Institute meetings and doubtless felt the benefit of evenings spent with the O. A. C. Literary Society.

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Fred Caldecott, '94, writes from England in which country he intends to farm. His passage across the Atlantic last January was a pleasant one. He says "I like my present surroundings very much" and he wishes to be remembered to all his college friends. He has been particularly struck with the fine quality of the ploughing done in England. The spring ploughing started there about the second week in March, which is later than usual owing to the long and severe winter. It will be remembered that Mr. Caldecott last year worthily filled the important part of Secretary-Treasurer on the Review staff.

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In a copy of the "Scottish Farmer" we note that Mr. Andrew G. Wilken has decided to farm in Scotland and has entered into partnership with his father Mr. George Wilken, on the home farm of Waterside of Forbes, Aberdeenshire. Mr. Wilken, Sen., has for many years held a foremost position as a breeder of Aberdeen Angus cattle. Those of us who knew his son will remember the strong partiality he evinced for this particular breed, with his shrewd judgments of their merits. His recent travels in Canada and the United States have not shaken his faith in their superiority and he intends to co-operate with his father in still further improving their already valuable herd. The Waterside herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle is famous for its grand pedigree stock. Mr. Andrew G. Wilken has our cordial wishes for a very happy and successful career.

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"Copy" from Jamaica is indeed welcome. Of that island we print verbatim an interesting account kindly sent by Mr. W. Baillie, an O. A. C. student of '84, and now resident in Jamaica.

"Jamaica, as most people don't seem to know" writes Mr. Baillie "is an island situated in the Carribean Sea, not the East Indies as usually supposed. The character of the country generally, is mountainous and the roads as a rule exceptionally good. The soil is exceedingly fertile, splendid crops of vegetables, corn, etc., are constantly seen growing on the steepest hill sides. The climate generally is exceptionally healthy and, except in the lowlands, in summer delightful. In summer I do not think the heat is as great as in Canada, and in winter it is considered very cold when the thermometer gets down to 50°. At present the island is being boomed as a healthy resort and for consumptives a better place would be hard to find.

The chief exports are sugar, rum, pineapples, coffee, cocoa, coconuts, bananas and dyewoods as logwood and fustic.

The chief industry of the Island is cattle rearing locally known as penkeeping. All our cattle are consumed at home. The prices for fat cattle are, for good average animals,--steers, \$58; cows, \$40 per head. Our \$58 steers will kill about 600 pounds for the four quarters. They are all grass fed, none of our cattle see either grain feed or stable.

For a man with money Jamaica is a good place. A property

here when properly managed gives good interest on the investment. Within the last few years property has been going up in value, and English and American investors have found out the value of the Island. A property of some 3,000 odd acres near me sold some few years ago for \$30,000 (then thought a long price); last year it changed hands at \$45,000. To show how places pay under different management, a friend of mine bought a property, said not to pay, for \$25,000; he sold an outlying part for \$10,000 and in the year made as much from the balance as he had paid for it. He is making now on an average \$6,000 per month nett.

The scenery of the Island is beautiful in some places most tropical and in others very like some parts of England and Scotland.

As in most of our Colonies, the Scotsman is ever present here and he is generally in the fore rank of the dollar makers. We have also a large number of Jews; I should say some of them must have come here with Columbus. Of course the large proportion of the population is black and ascending shades.

For a man with capital, he would have to go far to find a better place than Jamaica to invest it. For a man with none, I would say, "Stay at home," for we have plenty of people here with none already."

### Our Literary Society.

March 22nd. - The usual weekly meeting of the Society was held this evening in the gymnasium. There was a fairly large attendance of students.

The programme was opened with a selection by our Quartette. The singing of the Quartette is always much appreciated by the members of the Society and the piece, "Rocking on the Billows," rendered at this meeting was no exception to the rule.

An address on the scenery of British Columbia by Mr. A. A. King was the next item on the programme. Mr. King described some of the wonderful scenes in the part of his journey from near the Rocky Mountains on the eastern side to Okanogan Mission Valley. The journey from Summit Lake where the temperature was 30° below zero to a warm spring day temperature at the foot of the mountain, or, from midwinter to spring in half an hour was graphically described. Bear Creek Canyon, The Loops, Eagle Head Pass, Shuswap Lake, The Great Divide and Okanogan Mission Valley were referred to in the same graphic manner. Mr. King is a keen observer of men and nature and his remarks, brimful of interest, were brought to a close by his arrival in the Okanogan country.

The next item a song by Mr. A. C. Wilson was followed by the debate, the subject being: "Resolved that co-operation is most conducive to the progress of the people." The negative side of the question was introduced by Messrs. W. J. Thomson and W. G. Campbell and the affirmative by Messrs. J. E. B. Leishman and A. G. Ratcliffe. Co-operation as it is carried on in many industries in older countries than Canada, and as it might be in Canada particularly among farmers, and the benefits or otherwise to be derived by those co-operating was the general plan taken up by the leaders and those taking part in the discussion which was very lively.

A recitation by Mr. Leavitt and the critic's remarks brought the programme to an end and after the usual formalities in regard to adjournment the meeting dispersed.

### Athletics.



HERE is very little going on in the way of sports at this season of the year and we, who have got too grand to find any particular amusement in such games as marbles, pitch and toss, and other equally clevering and refined sports, must wait till the ground gets in the proper condition for the manlier games of football, baseball, cricket and tennis.

A meeting of the Athletic Association to discuss the merits of football and baseball was held on the 16th. The discussion proved highly interesting and spirited and will long be remembered as one of the longest meetings the Association has ever held. The meeting commenced at 7 p. m. and was not adjourned till 8.15 p. m. An account of the meeting is given below.

With regard to cricket, owing to the lack of enthusiasm shown in the game last year and the fact that football, baseball and tennis will also be going on, it has been decided not to form a club this year. We hope any students who are cricketers will not hesitate in joining the Guelph cricket club. The students who played against and with the city club last year can testify to the cordial and friendly manner they were treated and would advise enthusiasts of cricket to give their hearty support to the club. The writer intends to become a member of the Guelph cricket club this year and hopes the students will give it their support as much as they would as if it were a College club.

Tennis has been accused of being a game suited only for ladies and ladies men, whoever made that accusation must have been very ungallant or a bad tennis player, but the writer, who is certainly not a ladies man, has obtained great enjoyment from the game, and advises all who do not play the game to learn as soon as possible. We think tennis is likely to be popular with the students this year, the supporters of the game intend to do all in their power to make it a success.

We cannot conclude without saying something about the Annual Sports that are to take place before long. Let us all try to make this year an especially good one, as far as the Annual Field day is concerned. Fellows, who intend going in for any of the events should begin to train now. The various distances are marked out, the hurdles are up, and the high and broad jumps, putting the shot, etc. can also be practised and those who begin practising early will be fully rewarded when the great day comes round.

A meeting of the Athletic Association was held on Tuesday evening April 16th, to decide whether baseball or football was to be played this term. After a great deal of arguing, and a lively discussion it was decided that committees should find out the number of supporters of either game and state the amount of money each game would require. The President of the Association acted justly and wisely and we think it was owing to his firmness and clear-sightedness that the meeting concluded as satisfactorily as it did. The object of the Association is to promote and support all games that the students may wish to go in for, and for that reason baseball players should have the same rights as the football players. We think it is a pity the students cannot decide to play one game and throw all their enthusiasm into that game but as that seems impossible we hope the two games will get along all right together. We hope in our next issue to be able to report victories won both in football and baseball, though we cannot expect to do much with so little chance for practise as we get, and we are afraid that this term we shall get still less time than we have formerly.



Vol 6, # 8-17 not a ...

## Notes from our Exchanges.

### Gems.

As love grows criticism decreases.  
 True happiness comes only through self-denial.  
 All the senses ultimately minister to the unity of personality.  
 It is much to have opportunities, but more to improve them.  
 Culture does not so much mean adding to as it does unfolding.

—o—

Harvard has for the fifth time won the Harvard-Yale debate.

—o—

### Progress of Civilization.

Foohall was a crime during the reign of Henry XIII.

—o—

There are 12,000 students, graduate and undergraduate, in attendance at Oxford.

—o—

"Be wise with speed,  
 A fool at forty is a fool indeed."

Young.

—o—

Freshman just appointed on a committee—"I should like to know the nature of the character of the organized body, of which I have been placed." *The Recorder.*

—o—

"O what a tangled web we weave,  
 When first we practice to deceive."

—Scott's Marmion.

—o—

There are 800 American students in attendance at the University of Berlin.

o.

Examination week has passed  
 And left some very blue;  
 Their only sorrow is, you see,  
 That they have not passed, too.

—o—

In the library of Harvard University there are pictures of every graduate since 1752.

—o—

Society is inspiring; hard study is strengthening; but occasional solitary reflection is the balance wheel of character.—Ex.

—o—

As a New Year's gift, J. D. Rockefeller presented Chicago Uni-

versity with \$172,000 for current expenses. His total donations thus far amount to \$3,209,000.—Ex.

—o—

Self-reverence, self-knowledge, self-control—  
 These three alone lead life to sovereign power.

—Tennyson.

—o—

The examinations are over. It was a "condition and not a theory" that confronted us, and—we accept the condition.

—o—

The Alabama Gazette says: "My son, observe the postage stamp its usefulness depends upon its ability to stick to one thing till it gets there."

—o—

"All things will come to him who waits,"

But here is a rule that is slicker:

The man who goes for what he wants,

Will get there all the quicker.—Ex.

—o—

### For Second Year.

The following list of simple experiments will be instructive to all young teachers.

1. Hold a red hot brick in one hand and a thermometer in the other; note rise in temperature, also rise in sentiment.

—o—

The tissues of the life to be  
 We weave in colors all our own,  
 And in the field of destiny  
 We reap as we have sown.

—Whittier.

—o—

Two hundred enthusiastic students of Stanford University have each given \$2.50 towards the construction of a "noise-making" machine to be used at the next athletic contest between Leland Stanford and the University of California. It is to be a monster horn, worked by a steam-blower, and made of galvanized iron. It is to be fifty feet in length, with a diameter of ten feet, and will have a thirty-two horse power boiler.—Ex.

—o—

Sight, the most precious of God's gifts to man, should be carefully cultivated. He who does not observe closely loses many of life's pleasures. By careful observation we may see a divinity in every created object—a bearing and harmony indescribable! Observation is a most fruitful source from which to draw material for literary productions, and the power to observe well will always make an instructive writer or speaker. No student can afford to neglect the cultivation of this faculty.

J. F. C.